RDC IPLD



On page 1, following the title, please insert the following heading and paragraph:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

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This application is related to PCT/EP 95 Application Serial No. 02915, filed July 24, 1995, from which it derives priority as a US §371 application, and the following foreign applications: Federal Republic of Germany Applications No. P 4426276.0 filed July 25, 1994, P 4430998.8 filed August 31, 1994, P 4430973.2 filed August 31, 1994 and P 4439345.8 filed November 4, 1994, from which it derives priority.

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims 103-106:

103. (new) A conjugate comprising:

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- a synthetic polymeric carrier comprising a maximum of 100 amino acid monomeric units, the amino acids at least partially comprising artificial amino acids,
- 1-10 hapten molecules coupled to reactive side groups at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier, and
- 1-10 marker groups or solid phase binding groups coupled to reactive side groups at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier,

wherein the carrier is non-immunologically reactive.

104. (new) The conjugate of claim 103, wherein the artificial amino acids comprise β-alanine.

RDID 0089 US

105. (new) A conjugate comprising:

a synthetic polymeric carrier comprising a maximum of 100 amino acid monomeric units,

1-10 hapten molecules coupled to reactive side groups at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier, and

1-10 marker groups or solid phase binding groups coupled to reactive side groups at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier,

wherein the reactive side groups are amino or thiol side groups of the carrier and wherein the carrier is non-immunologically reactive.

106. (new) A conjugate comprising:

a synthetic polymeric carrier comprising a maximum of 100 monomeric units selected from the group consisting of amino acids, nucleotides and peptidic nucleic acids,

- 1-10 hapten molecules coupled to reactive side groups at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier, and
- 1-10 marker groups or solid phase binding groups coupled to reactive side groups at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier,

wherein the carrier is non-immunologically reactive when the monomeric units are amino acids.

<u>REMARKS</u>

In view of the preceding amendments and the comments which follow, and pursuant to 37 CFR §1.111, amendment and reconsideration of the Official Action of May 9, 2001 is respectfully requested by Applicants.